

Teague secures legislative fix to allow UAS funding to come to Holloman this year

Washington, DC – Thursday, Congressman Harry Teague celebrated the President's signing of a bill that includes \$53 million for Holloman Air Force Base's F-22 and UAS missions. Congressman Teague worked to secure language in the National Defense Authorization Act Conference Report that authorizes the Air Force to direct \$37.5 million to the Holloman UAS mission this fiscal year. After Holloman was awarded the UAS mission in July, the Air Force general counsel determined that current law did not allow UAS funding to be spent at Holloman. Congressman Teague worked with the New Mexico Delegation and House leaders, even bringing Majority Leader Steny Hoyer directly to Holloman, to ensure that language would be added to the conference for FY2010 that specifically allows the UAS funding to go to Holloman.

The bill also authorizes several projects at Holloman AFB including \$10.4 million to build an F-22 Fire/Crash Rescue Station and \$5.5 million to build a consolidated F-22 munitions facility at Holloman while authorizing a 3.4% military pay raise and expanding TRICARE.

"Without getting this fix for Holloman in the bill, UAS funding for Holloman in 2010 would have been jeopardized," said Congressman Harry Teague. "Funding for the F-22 and UAS missions will mean an economic boost for Alamogordo. These are much needed and in some cases long overdue renovations that Holloman needs to carry out its mission and keep the men and women on base safe and secure."

Congressman Teague made securing funding to construct a new Fire/Crash Rescue Station at Holloman AFB and funding for the UAS mission a top priority. Currently, the F-22 fleet is supported by an outdated fire station whose distance from the F-22 hampers the ability of emergency personnel to respond quickly to emergency situations.

In July, Congressman Harry Teague announced that HAFB was selected to house two types of unmanned aerial vehicles used in military reconnaissance. HAFB is slated to receive 10 MQ-1s this year, and 12 next in 2010. The base is also scheduled to receive five MQ-9s this year and 11 in 2010.

Some Additional Projects Authorized in the Bill Include:

Supporting Military Families

- Provides a 3.4 percent military pay raise

- Expands TRICARE health coverage for reserve component members and their families for 180 days prior to mobilization
- Prohibits fee increases on TRICARE inpatient care for one year
- Provides travel and transportation for three designated persons, including non-family members, to visit hospitalized service members
- Establishes an internship pilot program within federal agencies for military spouses Directs DOD to establish an undergraduate nurse training program to help alleviate the shortage of military nurses

Readiness

- Increases the size of the military by 30,000 Army troops, 8,100 Marines, 14,650 Air Force personnel, and 2,477 Navy sailors in Fiscal Year 2010, as requested by the President
- Provides \$6.9 billion to address equipment shortfalls in the National Guard and Reserves

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